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DEC 1 0 2004 HIT 2 325-09

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re Patent Application of

s. SAITO et al

Serial No. 10/673,608 Group Art Unit: 2651

Filed: September 30, 2003

Examiner: K.C. Wong

For:

INFORMATION SIGNAL RECORDING AND PLAYBACK METHOD

AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

STATEMENT OF CLARIFICATION

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia

December 10, 2004

Sir:

It has recently come to the attention of the Applicants that the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on the day the application was filed, which bears an incorrect publication number for a Japanese published patent application cited in the Information Disclosure Statement. Specifically, published Japanese Patent Application No. 61-271669 was inadvertently cited as No. 61-271668. As a result, the patent was printed with the incorrect publication number on the face.

The Applicants note that the Examiner initialed the Form PTO-1449 bearing the incorrect publication number, indicating consideration of the document. Additionally, the Applicants note that the Information Disclosure Statement was submitted to cite all documents (including the subject Japanese publication) that were cited during prosecution of the prior

Serial No. 10/673,608

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application in a change of applications claiming benefits under 35 U.S.C. §120. Therefore, the Applicants had no duty to re-submit the Japanese publication, or to provide an Information Disclosure Statement citing it. Nevertheless, the error in citing the incorrect publication number was inadvertent and typographical in nature, and is not believed to have mislead the Examiner in considering the correct document. Certainly, there was no intent to misled the Examiner.

A Form PTO-1449 bearing the correct publication number is attached. A copy of the publication itself has been submitted in a previous application and should be present in the Examiner's file. The Applicants request the Examiner to initial and return a copy of the Form as an indication that the correct publication has been considered and that all requirements of 37 C.F.R. \$1.97-98 have been satisfied.

The Applicants' representative regrets the error.

Respectfully submitted,

J//Stanger

Registration No. 32,846 Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Date: December 10, 2004

ORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERC PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFIC LIST OF DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)					Sheet 3 of E ATTY DOCKET NO. E HIT 2 325-09 APPLICANT S. SAITO et al FIUNG DATE 09/30/03 GROUP 2651				
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT	DATE		NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
	AA	4,630,272	12/1986	Fukami et al					
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	AC	4,081,844	03/28/78	Devore et al				,	
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